



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER EMPLOYEE ORDERED TO REPAY \$124,000 EMBEZZLED FROM BRANSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a former employee of the Branson, Mo., R-IV School District will be required to pay more than \$124,000 in restitution for funds she embezzled from the school district.

Janette McSpadden, 42, of Branson, was ordered by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this afternoon to pay \$124,164 in restitution to the Branson School District. **McSpadden** was also sentenced to six months of community confinement and five years of probation.

On Oct. 6, 2004, **McSpadden** pleaded guilty to all charges contained in an Aug. 12, 2004, federal indictment. **McSpadden**, who had worked for the school district for 15 years, embezzled from school accounts through a series of fraudulent checks, invoices and unauthorized cash withdrawals between Oct. 11, 2000, and July 26, 2003.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Taney County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow